SITE SURVEY
of
UNITED RIGGING AND HAULING, INC.
(MD-248)
Beltsville, Maryland

November 1999

Prepared by: Maryland Department of the Environment
Waste Management Administration
Site and Brownfields Assessments/State Superfund Division
2500 Broening Highway
Baltimore, Maryland 21224-6617

Prepared for: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

TABLE OF CONTENTS

UNITED RIGGING AND HAULING, INC.
MD-248

AUTHORIZATION

The Maryland Department of the Environment, Waste Management Administration (MDE) performed a site survey of United Rigging and Hauling, Inc. as part of the Site Survey Initiative. This site survey was completed under the Cooperative Agreement between MDE and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

SCOPE OF WORK

The Site Survey Initiative was proposed to reassess the status of those sites that were previously designated No Further Remedial Action Planned by the EPA. This initiative is intended to determine if site conditions have remained stable, provide a current description of the site and identify and address any new pathways for contamination. The initiative is also intended to enable the State to determine whether the State should recommend further investigation by EPA under the Cooperative Agreement, oversight by the State and no further investigation by EPA, or no further action be taken by EPA or the State and that the State designate the site as a "Formerly Investigated Site."

SITE DESCRIPTION

United Rigging and Hauling, Inc. (URH) was situated at 6701 Ammendale Road in Beltsville, Maryland (Figures 1 and 2). Geographic coordinates are $39^{0}02'57"$ North Latitude and $76^{0}53'37"$ West Longitude. Maryland grid coordinates are North 442,800 feet and East 831,000 feet. The 2.9-acre site is identified on Beltsville City Tax Map 13, Grid D3, Subdivision 4,700.[1] The maximum ground elevation of the site is 150 feet above mean sea level[2] and slopes very gently to the west. The site is located within an industrial area of Beltsville and is bounded by industrial properties to the south and east, ARC Stone to the west, and Ammendale Road to the north.

During a site visit in October 1999, MDE personnel documented current site conditions (Figure 2). Behind the entrance of the site is a paved parking lot and an existing office building and warehouse. The site has a 6,000-gallon aboveground gasoline tank. The site is enclosed by a galvanized fence.

OPERATIONAL HISTORY

Site History

URH has worked in the rigging and hauling business since the early 1970s.[3] Prior to 1985, URH used the site to store old electrical transformers which were later salvaged for scrap metal. The property was also used for the storage and maintenance of heavy equipment. In April 1996, Mr. Charles Sloan, the owner of the site, sold the property to West Side Associates.[1] Since 1996, West Side Associates has leased the site to PCM

Services, Inc., a parking lot contractor. URH moved to a new location on 6601 Ammendale Road in Beltsville, Maryland.

Regulatory History

In March 1985, the Prince George's County Health Department (PGCHD) responded to a complaint of oil draining from a storm drainage culvert into an Indian Creek tributary.[3] The PGCHD collected a sample of this oil to send to the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) laboratory for analyses. The laboratory results indicated 235 parts per million (ppm) of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in the sample. The PGCHD notified the DHMH's Hazardous and Solid Waste Management Administration of the results. The State of Maryland collected surface water, soil, and sediment samples from the Indian Creek tributary and the drainage culvert to submit to the DHMH laboratory. The laboratory results indicated PCB contamination in the soil and sediment samples. The Maryland Hazardous Waste Strike Force (HWSF) collected many on-site soil samples and found PCB contamination was as high as 55,000 ppm. HSWMA requested EPA to utilize emergency authority to activate Superfund.

On May 8, 1985, EPA conducted an emergency removal for the PCB-contamined soils and the transformers at the site.[4] EPA found severely stained on-site soils and more than 760 transformers. The Federal On-Scene Coordinator ordered that the site be isolated by damming the drainages and flushing out the drain pipes. Asbestos material was also found at the site.

In August 1985, EPA, DHMH, URH, and the Potomac Electric Power Company (PEPCO) finalized a Consent Order whereby PEPCO would formally take over removal operations at the site. EPA agreed to remove those transformers which had PCB concentrations above 500 ppm. Transformers with PCB concentrations below 500 ppm were shipped to a facility in Chester, Virginia for metal recycling. PEPCO completed site work in January 1986 after all manifests were received. In January 1986, DHMH collected three confirmatory soil samples after the cleanup and found PCBs were not detectable in the ppm range.

PREVIOUS STUDIES

In 1985, an On-Scene Coordinator Report issued by the EPA addressed the immediate removal action of transformers and contaminated soil between May 8 and December 2, 1985.[4] O.H. Materials, EPA's contractor, removed 787 transformers, 10,562 tons of soil, 6,100 gallons of mineral oil, and 61,800 gallons of sediment basin water.

PEPCO's final report of the site after the cleanup dealt with the disposal of contaminated soil and site restoration issues.[5] Soil was removed from six major areas of the site. Reclamation of disturbed areas involved grading these areas to their original slope and hydroseeding.

In 1987, the HSWMA completed the Preliminary Assessment.[6] HSWMA documented on-site conditions and the operational history of the site. Additionally, the NUS Corporation prepared their own version of the Preliminary Assessment of the site during the same year.[7]

The NUS Corporation prepared the Site Inspection in 1990.[3] In this study, the NUS Corporation collected six surface water samples, five sediment samples, and five soil samples. No toxicological evaluation was done for this study. MDE compared the surface water maximum contaminant concentration to ambient surface water quality criteria (AWQC).[8] Copper and lead exceeded the chronic AWQC for the protection of aquatic life.

GROUNDWATER PATHWAY

According to the 1989 MDE Site Inspection, the site overlies Quaternary Lowland Deposits which consists of gravel, sand, silt, and clay. Table 1 lists domestic wells within a four-mile radius of the site.

TABLE 1--DOMESTIC WELLS WITHIN A FOUR-MILE RADIUS OF THE SITE[9]

Number of Wells	Distance from Site (miles)	Depth Range of Wells (feet)
--	0 to 0.25	--
--	0.25 to 0.5	--
1	0.5 to 1.0	98
2	1.0 to 2.0	N/A
7	2.0 to 3.0	110-620
16	3.0 to 4.0	53-300

N/A = Not Available

SURFACE WATER PATHWAY

This pathway is a potential concern as it will be directly affected by whatever material is transported by overland or groundwater flow to a tributary to Indian Creek. The most downgradient surface water samples collected for the NUS Site Inspection had levels of copper and lead which exceeded their respective chronic AWQC values for the protection of aquatic life.

SOIL PATHWAY

The most recent soil sampling conducted by the NUS for the Site Inspection indicated the soil pathway is not a significant concern to on-site workers.

AIR PATHWAY

The air pathway has not been evaluated.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the information available, MDE has further requirements related to the investigation of hazardous waste at this site. MDE further recommends that this site does not warrant further investigation by the EPA and that it be "archived" by EPA.

REFERENCES

1. Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation, 1999, Real Property Information.

2. U.S. Geological Survey, 1969, Topographic Map of the Beltsville 7.5-Minute Quadrangle, Maryland, Scale 1:24,000.

3. NUS Corporation, 1990, Site Inspection of United Rigging and Hauling.

4. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1985, Federal On-Scene Coordinator's Report of United Rigging and Hauling, Beltsville, Prince George's County, Maryland.

5. Potomac Electric Power Company, 1986, Final Report, Administrative Order By Consent, United Site.

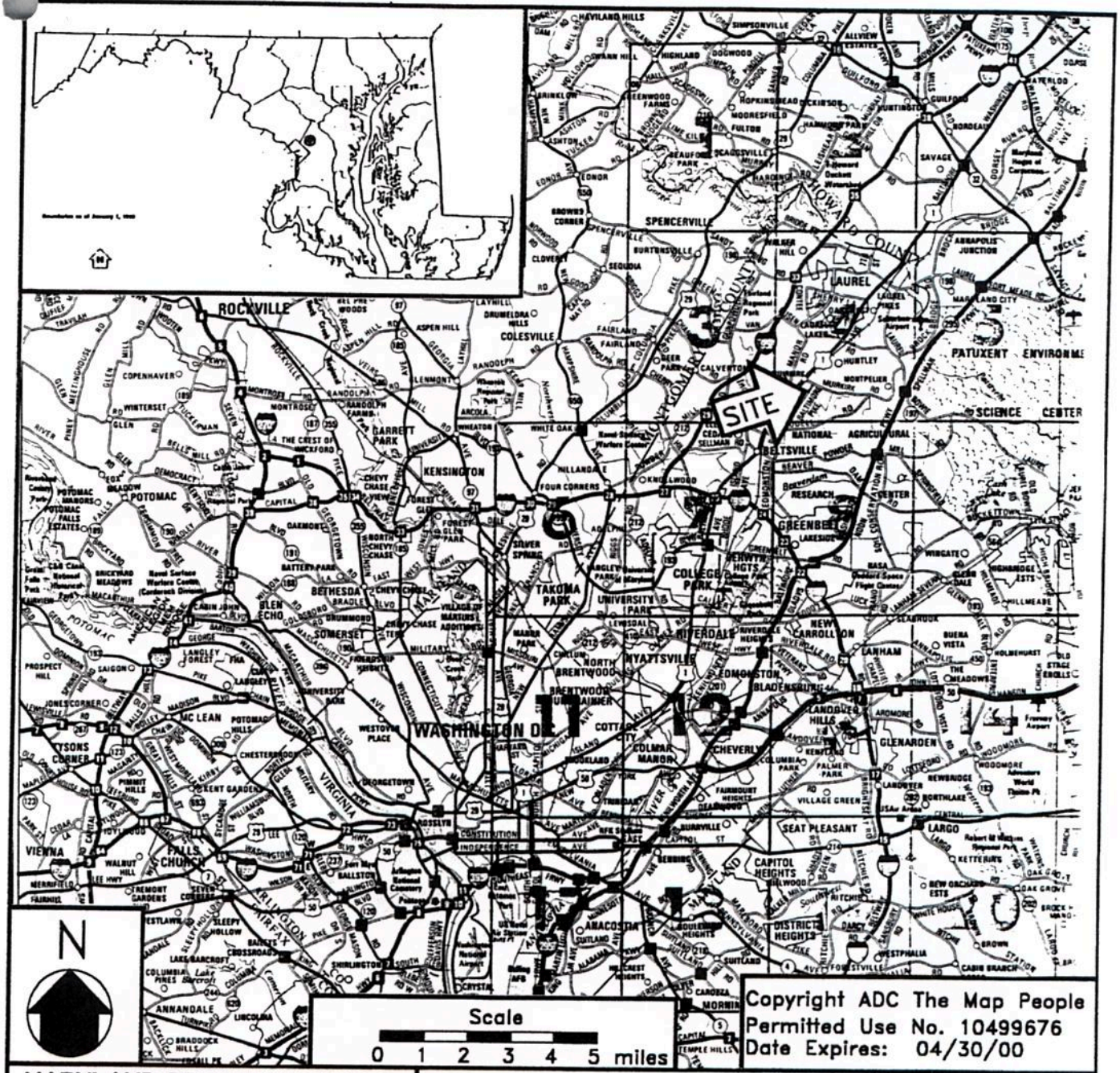
6. Maryland Department of the Environment, 1987, A Preliminary Assessment of United Rigging and Hauling, Inc.

7. NUS Corporation, 1987, Preliminary Assessment of United Rigging and Hauling, Inc.

8. Maryland Department of the Environment, 1997, Code of Maryland Regulations 26.08.02.

9. Maryland Department of the Environment, 1999, Well Completion Database.

APPENDIX A--FIGURES



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
WASTE MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION

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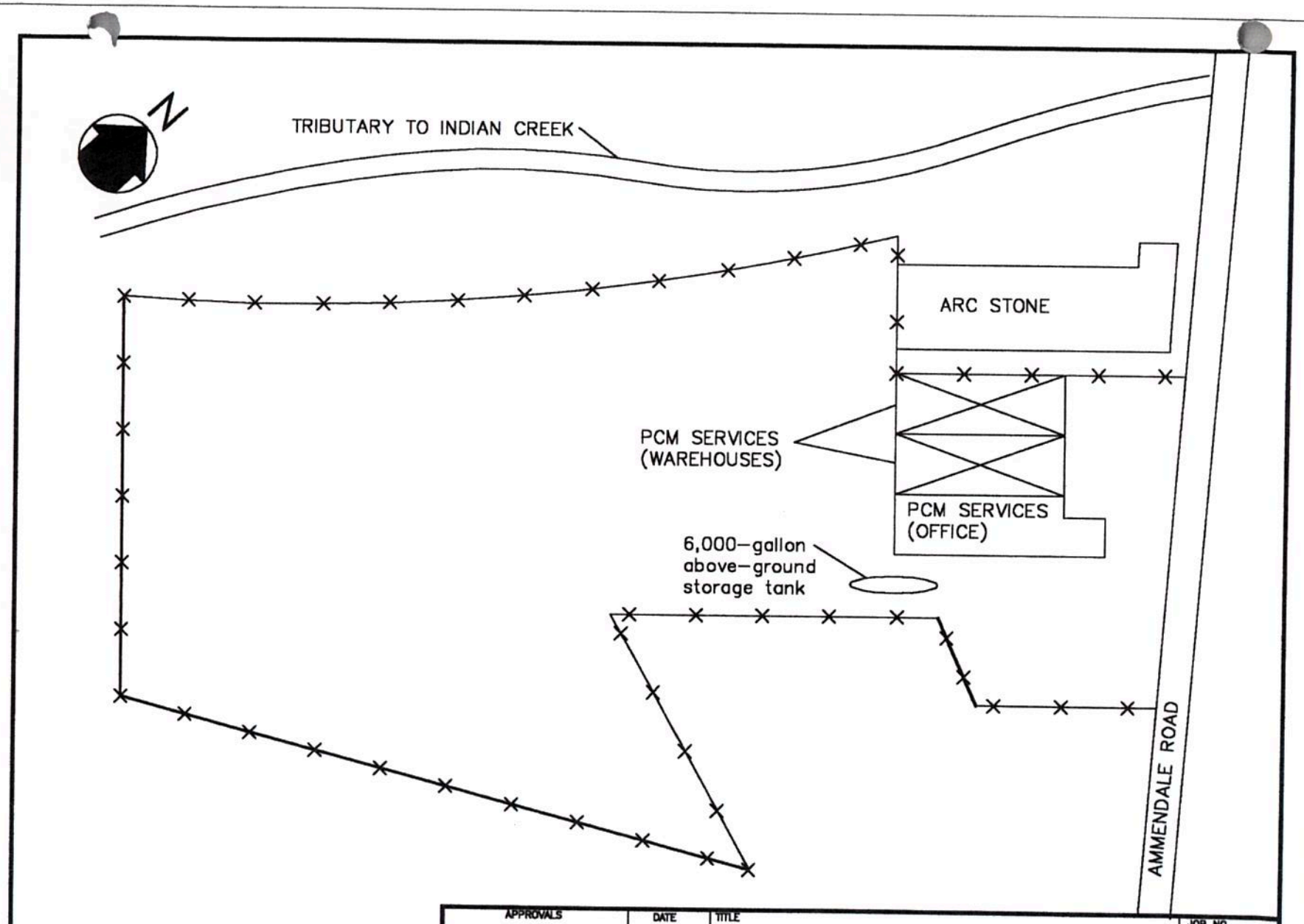
MDE

FIGURE 1

REGIONAL MAP OF SITE LOCATION
UNITED RIGGING AND HAULING, INC.

BELTSVILLE MARYLAND

(0065454) 65454



APPROVALS	DATE	TITLE	JOB NO.
		SITE MAP OF THE UNITED RIGGING AND HAULING	65454
DRAWN A.W. Fong	10/26/99	BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND	DWG NO.
CHECKED P. L. Davis	10/26/99		0065454
GEOLOGIST A. W. Fong	10/26/99	SCALE NTS / FIGURE NO. 2	

APPENDIX B--PICTURES

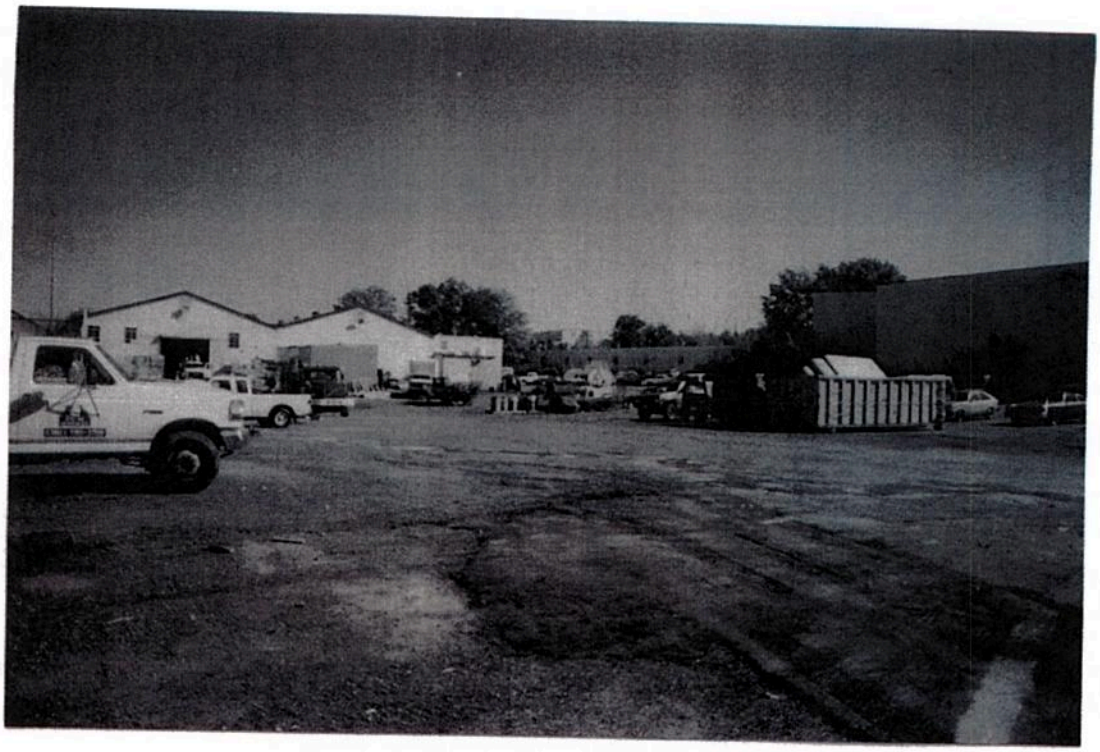


Photo 1--Overview of site from the south side. View to the north.

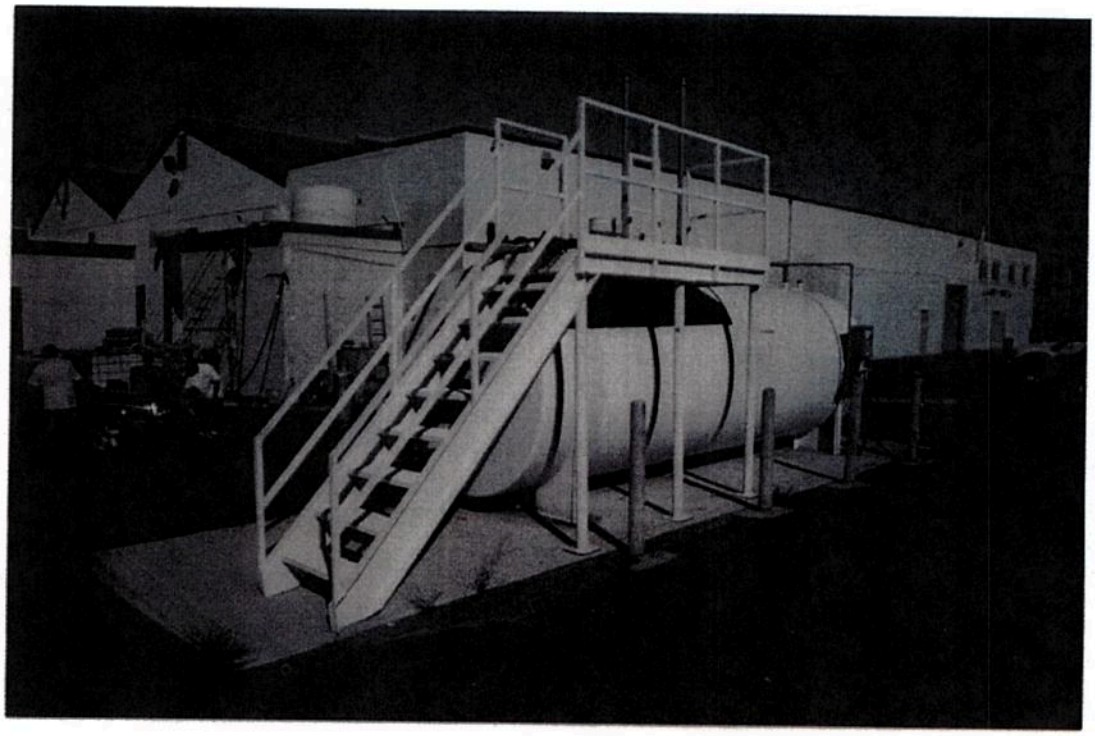


Photo 2--Closeup of 6,000-gallon aboveground storage tank.